

Budleigh Salterton
Urban District Council.

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ANNUAL REPORT

--- 1938 ---

*Of the Vital Statistics,
Sanitary Work, &c.,*

By

CLARENCE BEESLEY, D.P.H. (Camb). &c.

Medical Officer of Health

“ FAIRFORD,”

EXMOUTH.

June 1st, 1939.

To the—

Chairman and Members of the
Budleigh Salterton Urban District Council.

I beg to present the Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1938. According to instructions issued by the *Ministry of Health*, it will be an “ Ordinary,” as distinguished from a “ Survey ” Report. The various headings which are set out are those prescribed by the Ministry of Health, and they will be adhered to in this Report. They are as follows :—

- 1 Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.
- 2 General Provision of Health Services in the Area.
- 3 Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.
- 4 Housing.
- 5 Inspection and Supervision of Food.*

* It is stated in the Circular as to the contents and arrangement of this Annual Report, that it will not be necessary to repeat matter which has appeared in previous Reports, save where it is wished to call attention to old defects not yet remedied.

Section A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres) 1,018.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population,
mid-1938 3,388.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to
Rate Books 1,164.

Rateable value and sum represented by a penny rate,
£43,224. £174.

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Live Births	Legitimate	26	12	14
	Illegitimate	1	1	0
Stillbirths	.....	0		

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 7.9.

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, nil.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Deaths	57	28	29

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 18.8.

Deaths from puerperal causes 0.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births, 74.0.

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births,
76.9.

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births,
nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 11.

„ Measles (all ages), none.

„ Whooping Cough (all ages), none.

„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), none.

TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.—7 deaths (2 males and 5 females) which occurred outside the Area, must be added to the 57 registered in the District, making a total of 64.

A factor .71 has been supplied by the Ministry of Health, by which the crude death rate of the area should be multiplied in order to make it comparable from a mortality point of view with the crude death rate of the country as a whole, or with the mortality of any other local area the crude death rate of which should be similarly modified with its own factor for the purpose.

These figures may be compared with those for England and Wales, which are as follows :

Birth Rate, 15.1 per 1,000 population.

Death Rate, 11.6 „ „ „

Death Rate under one year of age, 53 per 1,000 live births.

Maternal Mortality, 3.08 per 1,000 live births.

Maternal Mortality, 2.97 per live and still births.

Section B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(i.) *Medical Officer of Health*: C. BEESLEY, D.P.H. (Camb.), also M.O.H. Exeter Port Sanitary Authority.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector: J. B. HOLDEN, M.& CyE., Associate Royal Sanitary Institute.

- (ii.)
 - (a) Laboratory facilities.
 - (b) Ambulance facilities.
 - (c) Nursing in the Home.
 - (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics.
 - (e) Hospitals.

There have been no changes in the above services provided in the District.

2.—There have been no changes in the Services provided under the following heads :—

- (i.) Midwifery and Maternity Services.
- (ii.) Institutional Provision for Mothers or Children.
- (iii.) Health Visitors.
- (iv.) Child Life Protection.
- (v.) Arrangements for Dental, Orthopaedic, etc., cases.

Section C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

i.—WATER. The District enjoys a continuous supply of pure potable water, and samples are submitted regularly for chemical and bacteriological examinations. Up to the present time the samples have been classed as satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The County Analyst's Report is as follows :—

CHEMICAL (Results expressed as parts per 100,000).

Source of Sample : Well in Orchard.

HARDNESS AS CALCIUM CARBONATE—

Temporary 10.4, Permanent 14.4, total	24.8
Chlorides, as Chlorine	3.5
Ammonia, free and saline, as Nitrogen	nil
Ammonia, albuminoid, as Nitrogen	0.0028
Nitrates, as Nitrogen	0.32
Nitrites, as Nitrogen	nil
Oxygen absorbed 3 hours at 37 °C.	0.036
Metals, Lead, Copper, Zinc	absent
Remarks : Sample clear and free from Sediment.	

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

Total organisms growing on agar (2 days at 37 °C.),
34 per C.C.

Total organisms growing on agar (3 days at 20 °C.),
9,600 per C.C.

B. Coli absent in 100 ml.

Probable number coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 C.C.,
nil.

CONCLUSIONS.

This sample is of a satisfactory degree of organic and bacterial purity.

T. LAWSON McEWAN.

ii.—DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. The arrangements for drainage, sewerage and sewage disposal during the year have been satisfactory. Some of the old existing sewers have been reconstructed.

2.—RIVERS AND STREAMS. No action has been necessary to check pollution of rivers or streams in the Area.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. Satisfactory. The water-carriage system is in operation, with the exception of half-a-dozen premises in which Elsan chemical closets are installed.

ii. PUBLIC CLEANSING. Refuse collection and disposal is carried out bi-weekly.

iii. SHOPS AND OFFICES. No action has been necessary under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, or the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to ventilation, temperature and to sanitary conveniences.

iv. CAMPING SITES. No sites in the Area were used for camping purposes during 1938.

v. SMOKE ABATEMENT. No nuisance from smoke in the Area has come under, or been brought to, my notice.

vi. SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS. None in the Area.

vii. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. No cases of house infestation by bed bugs have been reported.

4.—SCHOOLS. The sanitary conditions and water supply are satisfactory. Disinfection is carried out during the holidays. Notification of cases of infectious disease is promptly reported, and the measures recommended for preventing dissemination, on the lines of the "Memorandum on Closure of, and Exclusion from, School, 1927," are followed.

Section D.

Housing.

1.—*Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year—*

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	21
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	30
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	6
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	10
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	6
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2.—*Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	4
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3.—*Action under Statutory Powers during the Year—*

(a).—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil

(b).—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners		nil
(c).—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :		
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made		nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders		nil
(d).—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :		
(1) Number of separate tenements or under- ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made		nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or under- ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit		nil
4.— <i>Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding:—</i>		
(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year		nil
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein		nil
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein		nil
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year		nil
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year		1
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases		5

(d).—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding nil

(e).—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report nil

Section E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.—The 8 registered cowsheds and dairies in the District have been inspected on 22 occasions. They comply with the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.

EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

CLEANLINESS. No. taken, 30. No. satisfactory, 20

TUBERCULOSIS. „ „ 4. „ „ 4

The methods for producing clean milk in the District are generally satisfactory.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. The 3 bake-houses have been inspected on 10 occasions and their general condition found to be in conformity with the Regulations. Notice of slaughtering is duly carried out in the case of the one licensed slaughter-house in the District.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, exclud- ing Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed (if known)	70		61	96	102
Number inspected	28		30	42	40
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole carcasses con- demned	None	None	None	None	None
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	None	None	None	None	None
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	None	None	None	None	None
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole carcasses con- demned	None	None	None	None	None
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	None	None	None	None	None
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	None	None	None	None	None

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC.—No action taken under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, the Artificial Cream Act, 1929, the Public Health (Condensed Milk)

Regulations, 1923 and 1927, the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, and the Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927.

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD. When considered expedient, these examinations would be conducted by the County Analyst, Dix's Field, Exeter.

(e) NUTRITION. No special work has been done on this subject.

(f) SHELLFISH (Molluscan). There are no shellfish beds or layings in the Area.

Section F.

Prevalence and Control Over Infectious Diseases.

Seven cases of notifiable infectious disease occurred during the year, viz. :—

Pneumonia, 2.

Erysipelas, 4.

Varicella, 1.

The pneumonia cases ended fatally.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.—No action, under 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes, was necessary.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
15.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
25.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
35.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
45.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
55.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
65 & upwards	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals	2	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....

Notification of tuberculosis in the Area is efficiently carried out, and no cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify, have come under my notice.

A detailed list of the causes of death is given at the end of this Report, and also a Report on the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act.

In conclusion, I must thank Mr. Hill and Mr. Holden (Clerk and Surveyor respectively) for their valuable assistance in the compilation of this Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. BEESLEY.

**Causes of Death in Budleigh Salterton Urban District
in 1938.**

				Males.	Females.
Other digestive diseases .....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Other liver diseases .....	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Puerperal sepsis .....	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Acute and chronic nephritis .....	.....	.....	.....	1	0
Congenital debility : Premature birth .....			.....	1	1
Senility .....	.....	.....	.....	0	1
Suicide .....	.....	.....	.....	2	0
Other violence .....	.....	.....	.....	0	1
Other defined disease .....	.....	.....	.....	3	1
Diarrhoea, 2 years and over .....	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Diabetes .....	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Cerebral haemorrhage .....	.....	.....	.....	1	2
Heart disease .....	.....	.....	.....	6	7
Other circulatory disease .....	.....	.....	.....	5	7
Bronchitis .....	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Other respiratory diseases .....	.....	.....	.....	0	1
Appendicitis .....	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Influenza .....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Syphilis .....	.....	.....	.....	0	0
Cancer .....	.....	.....	.....	5	6
Pneumonia .....	.....	.....	.....	2	0
				—	—
				28	29
				—	—

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces, 1939.

URBAN DISTRICT OF BUDLEIGH SALTERTON.

Factories	2	none	none
Workshops	5	none	none
Workplaces	4	none	none
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Total	11		

Defects found in Factories, Workshops & Workplaces.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of Defects.</i>		<i>Number of offences in respect of</i>	
			<i>Referred to which Prosecutions were</i>	
	<i>Found. Remedied. Inspector. instituted.</i>			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	none	none	none	none
Want of ventilation	„	„	„	„
Overcrowding.....	„	„	„	„
Want of drainage of floors	„	„	„	„
Other nuisances	„	„	„	„
<i>Sanitary accommodation—</i>				
Insufficient	nil	nil	„	„
Unsuitable or defective	„	„	„	„
Not separate for sexes	„	„	„	„
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	„	„	nil	nil
Other offences	„	„	„	„
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).				
Total	nil	nil	nil	nil

